new districts can only be possible after finalization of the guidelines for this Fund.

Declaring Sundargarh as SEZ

2516. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Orissa MPs have met the Hon'ble Prime Minister with a request to undertake infrastructure development in the State of Orissa and for declaring Sundargarh as a Special Economic Zone (SEZ);

(b) whether the MPs have met other concerned Ministers and submitted a Memorandum to the Prime Minister and others for accelerated development of this backward State;

(c) if so, the details of the demands so made in the Memorandum; and

(d) what is the action plan of the Central Government to consider these demands with a view to help the cash strapped State to improve its economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M. V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble Member of Parliament met the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 23.07.2004 and submitted a memorandum to undertake infrastructure development in the State of Orissa. However, there is no mention of declaring Sundargarh as Special Economic Zone (SEZ).

(c) Some of the major demands made in the memorandum are listed in the enclosed Statement *(See* below).

(d) The Prime Minister's Office has sought comments on the above demands from the concerned Central Ministries.

Statement

Declaring Sundargarh as Special Economic Zone (SEZ)

List of demands made by the Hon'ble Members of Parliament in their memorandum to the Hon'ble Prime Minister

1. The State of Orissa should be declared as a Special Category State;

2. Orissa should be adequately compensated for delay in revision of royalty on coal and minerals;

3. Upgrade the Burla Engineeering College to Indian Institute of Technology;

4. Early approval for establishment of four centres for studies in Integrative Science and for Eastern Region, Bhubaneswar;

5. Provision of adequate funds for timely completion of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose All India Institute of Medical Sciences;

6. Promote the Knowledge Park to provide modern facilities to IT and bio-tech scientists;

7. The Paradeep Oil Refinery of Indian Oil Corporation should be made promotional by the end of the Tenth Plan;

8. Orissa should be included in the tourist circuit of world standard;

9. Allotment of funds for railway projects should be increased substantially for timely completion of the project;

10. KBK districts should be included under the Backward Districts Initiative of the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana and also all the 150 identified most backward districts should be covered under the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana;

11. DFID should be allowed to participate in the proposed World Bank assisted Orissa structural Adjustment Programme and Orissa Public Enterprises Reform Programme, phase-II should be approved expeditiously;

12. Step should be taken to develop Paradeep Port;

13. Gopalpur and Dhamra should be declared as major ports and necessary financial allocation should be provided for its all round development.

Funds for development of BIMARU States

2517. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the funds for the development of BIMARU (Bihar, MP, Rajasthan, UP) States and other backward regions of the country *i.e.* Orissa are being transferred to other better off States;